

Remarks

Claims 1, 2 and 8-19 are currently pending.

Objections

The Examiner objected to the disclosure and requested appropriate headings be inserted. Applicants have amended the disclosure to include headings and respectfully request the objection be removed.

35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 8-10, 14-15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wozniak (US Pat. No. 4,851,464). The Examiner also rejected claims 11-13 and 16 as being unpatentable over Wozniak in view of Leoni et al. (US Pat. No. 4,717,716) and claims 18-19 as being unpatentable over Wozniak in view of Burba et al. (US Pat. No. 4,440,900). Applicants traverse these rejections for the following reasons.

Applicants agree with the Examiner that Wozniak teaches PVC plastisol compositions characterized in that an adhesion promoter system containing a polyaminoamide, a primary plasticizer and a non-ionic solvent is first formulated and subsequently added to the PVC plastisol composition. Wozniak further teaches that addition of the non-ionic solvent allows the PVC plastisol compositions to be painted with an acid catalyzed topcoat. The amount of non-ionic solvent added is taught to be an amount necessary to solvate the adhesion promoter, this amount being 10 to 70 weight parts of non-ionic solvent based on 100 weight parts of PVC resin.

In comparison, Applicants presently claimed invention is directed to an adhesion promoter for plastisols, characterized in that such adhesion promoter comprises a

polyaminoamide and 10% - 60 % by weight of ethyldiglycol based on the total weight of adhesion promoter. Thus, the amount of ethyldiglycol in Applicants plastisol composition is significantly less than the amount of non-ionic solvent in Wozniak's plastisol composition. Wozniak neither teaches nor suggests addition of lower amounts of non-ionic solvent other than the amounts noted above. In fact, Wozniak indicates in the Examples that amounts of at least 40 weight parts of non-ionic solvent per 100 weight parts of PVC resin may be required for paintability to be realized.

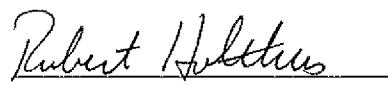
Nevertheless, the Examples provided in the present application demonstrate that unexpectedly good adhesion can be achieved by the addition of the presently claimed low amounts of ethyldiglycol to a plastisol composition (*see US 2007/0043153* at paragraphs [0031] to [0041]). In particular, the plastisol composition of Example 3, which contained only 0.4% by weight of ethyldiglycol based on the total weight of the plastisol composition, exhibited surprisingly good adhesion. In addition, the storage stability at high temperature and processability for the plastisol composition of Example 3 were vastly better than those plastisol compositions which did not contain ethyldiglycol. Such results were not foreseeable. Therefore, in view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the rejections based on Wozniak be withdrawn.

Adding the teachings of Leoni et al. or Burba et al. also does not bring one skilled in the art closer to Applicants invention. Leoni et al. and Burba et al. were added for the purpose of teaching the addition of certain amounts of the adhesion promoter by weight to the plastisol composition. Leoni et al. nor Burba et al. neither teach nor suggest the addition of 10% - 60 % by weight of ethyldiglycol based on the total weight of adhesion

promoter. Thus, for the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request the rejections based on Wozniak, Leoni et al. and Burba et al. be withdrawn.

The Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to deduct any fee due in connection with the filing of this document from Huntsman Corporation Deposit Account No. 08-3442.

Respectfully Submitted,


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